

profit lender and community developer dedicated to building stronger neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles County, on the occasion of its 25th Anniversary.

Incorporated in 1984, LA NHS has catapulted itself from a small housing agency to the largest, non-profit affordable homeownership provider in Southern California. LA NHS focuses on specific target neighborhoods in Los Angeles County. In addition to the Boyle Heights/East Los Angeles areas in the 34th Congressional District, the organization targets Central Los Angeles, Crenshaw, Pacoima, San Pedro-Wilmington and Carson.

Over the last 25 years, LA NHS has reinvested more than \$2 billion into neighborhoods throughout the county and region. The organization has developed and rehabilitated more than 11,000 housing and commercial units, put 1.9 million families on the road to homeownership, created 175 block clubs, and employed 200 neighborhood youth. As a lender to underserved communities, LA NHS has maintained a loan portfolio with a 3 percent or less delinquency ratio and no foreclosures.

Since 2007, LA NHS, along with its partners through the Los Angeles County NeighborWorks® Center for Foreclosure Solutions, has been on the frontline of the mortgage crisis. The LA NHS 25th Anniversary Gala Dinner Concert & Silent Auction, scheduled for April 30, 2009, will commemorate the partners that have worked tirelessly to keep families in their homes in the midst of this crisis.

As a Community Development Financial Institution during the last fiscal year, Los Angeles Neighborhood Housing Services working with its affiliates, NHS Neighborhood Redevelopment Corporation and NHS Neighborhood Lending Services, reinvested nearly \$97 million into Los Angeles neighborhoods, providing nearly \$70 million in loans to local residents to improve housing conditions, create homeownership opportunities, and combat predatory lending. In addition, during that time, LA NHS reinvested more than \$9.8 million through real estate services and \$1.5 million through neighborhood revitalization projects.

Through aggressive foreclosure prevention efforts, LA NHS assisted more than 59,000 families over the last fiscal year to preserve their homes and prevent foreclosure. This ongoing multi-faceted initiative includes post-purchase education fairs, clinics and workshops, affordable lending, loan modifications, comprehensive loss mitigation initiatives, and other LA NHS programs.

I had the privilege of seeing firsthand the extraordinarily helpful services provided by LA NHS to residents of the 34th Congressional District. Last July, more than 500 homeowners attended a LA NHS organized-foreclosure prevention fair in the City of Downey. Credit counselors and lenders were on hand at the free event to offer on-site assistance, one-on-one counseling, and information on viable options to avoid foreclosure. Housing, tax and financial professionals also provided presentations to help homeowners understand the foreclosure process, guard against fraud and scams, address tax issues and rebuild their credit. Representatives from the LA County NeighborWorks Center for Foreclosure Solutions, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and area banks also participated in the workshop.

LA NHS credits the tremendous efforts of its community volunteers during the last fiscal

year for the success of its outreach efforts, including the Downey foreclosure prevention fair. More than 800 volunteers spent more than 6,400 hours participating in the LA NHS sponsored foreclosure prevention fairs, clinics, workshops, and Neighborhood Pride Day events. The two Pride Day events involved more than 400 volunteers who gave their time and labor to refurbish homes and plant flowers in underserved neighborhoods. In total during the last fiscal year, these community outreach events assisted more than 10,000 families to preserve their homes and prevent foreclosure.

Madam Speaker, on the occasion of Los Angeles Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc. 25th Anniversary, I join today with fellow leaders from throughout the state in recognizing President and Chief Executive Officer Lori Gay, Board Chairman Sal Mendoza, the Board of Directors, and the organization's 40 employees for their tireless work to help families throughout Los Angeles County. I extend my thanks on behalf of the residents of the 34th Congressional District for their passion and determination to revitalize communities, build stronger neighborhoods and help families of modest means actualize their dream of homeownership, and I wish them many years of continued success.

HONORING MAYOR TONY ARREDIA
OF DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated public servant from my Congressional District, Mayor Tony Arredia of Des Plaines. After nine years as Mayor, Tony has decided to retire.

Tony was born and raised on the west side of Chicago, and he attended Mount Carmel High School. In the private sector, Tony brought his talents and relational skills to bear as he worked for Continental Bank and the Asbury Court Retirement Community.

In his first experience with elected public office, Tony served two terms as the 8th Ward Alderman of Des Plaines. Then, in 2000, Tony was appointed to replace Mayor Paul Jung. Over the years, Tony has been an insightful observer, keen in his understanding of the long-term challenges facing the City. Throughout his career, he has tackled these challenges with deft skill, deep understanding, and strong personal integrity.

While constant change has brought a steady stream of new difficulties for Des Plaines to confront, one thing has remained the same. Mayor Arredia has kept a steady hand to the wheel, advising the City Council and working tirelessly for the benefit of the community and her residents.

Tony Arredia has been an advocate for the people of Des Plaines since his very first days in office. Tony truly embodies the meaning of a public servant as he approaches his job with compassion and humility. In his time with the City, he has shown true leadership to bring economic development to the area and to achieve important progress in flood preparedness and relief. Tony has improved all of our lives and left an indelible impression on the City of Des Plaines.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, Tony Arredia is a remarkable leader who has dedicated his life to serving the people of Des Plaines. Please join me in recognizing his extraordinary service and wishing him every happiness in the well deserved respite of his retirement.

IN HONOR OF COACH BRUCE
SNYDER

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exemplary and inspirational life of Coach Bruce Snyder. Diagnosed with cancer just last year, Coach Snyder passed away early in the morning on Monday, April 13, 2009. He was 69 years old.

Coach Snyder will always be remembered for his many successes as the head football coach at Arizona State University from 1992–2000, and before that at the University of California. Under his leadership, the Sun Devils won 58 games and made four bowl appearances. More than 40 of Coach Snyder's players were drafted into the NFL, and he produced over 100 All-Pac-10 honorees.

ASU alumni the world over remember the magical 1996 season. Bruce Snyder coached the Sun Devils to one of their best seasons in history, going 11–1, upsetting many highly ranked championship teams, and coming heartbreakingly close to a NCAA national championship. He was named Coach of the Year, an honor that could not have been more appropriate.

Coach Snyder's time at ASU is incredibly impressive, and has certainly left a lasting impression on me. But the ultimate record of his work lies in the positive and lasting impact he has made upon the hearts and minds of the people he touched. Players, family and friends recall Coach Snyder as a man of tremendous personal integrity, culture and caring for those around him. He imparted life lessons on his players that went far beyond the field. As one former player so aptly put it upon learning of Coach Snyder's passing, "He was a good coach, but a better man."

Madam Speaker, please join me and Bruce's wife and children in mourning the loss and honoring the legacy of Bruce Snyder.

RECOGNIZING DR. RUTH PERSON

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, on April 17 the University of Michigan-Flint will install Dr. Ruth Person as their new chancellor. The inaugural ceremony and a public reception will be held on campus that day to celebrate this event.

Dr. Ruth Person received her bachelor's degree from Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania, and her master's and Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. She also earned a master's